FINANCIAL SERVICES REPUBLICAN MORNING CLIPS 11.5.2009

Wall Street Journal: "Clash Looms on Banks A key Senate lawmaker is readying legislation that would dramatically redraw how the financial system is regulated, setting the chamber on a collision course with both the House of Representatives and the Obama administration, which have championed markedly different approaches."
Wall Street Journal: "Bank Crackdown Draws Criticism Politicians are putting pressure on regulators to ease up on small community banks across the U.S., a move some say could increase the cost of cleaning up the financial crisis."
Wall Street Journal: "State Oversight of Some Hedge Funds Raises Flags Pending legislation aimed at tightening regulation of financial services would give state authorities significant clout in overseeing hedge funds, a move some regulators fear could undermine Congress's goal."
Wall Street Journal: "Big Bonuses Are Back for Many on Street Incentive pay on Wall Street is set to rise by about 40% as stronger financial markets collide with the political backlash over bonuses, according to a closely watched surve set to be released Thursday."
Wall Street Journal: "Fed to Keep Rates Low Despite Pickup The Federal Reserve affirmed its plan to keep interest rates "exceptionally low" for a long time despite signs of economic recovery. But the Fed began to lay rhetorical groundwork for an eventual shift in its stance, suggesting that when the unemployment rate falls or if expectations of inflation turn up, it could change course."

Wall Street Journal: "Money on Autopilot Federal Reserve officials have been at pains to say they are ready, able and especially, absolutely, don't doubt it for a second-willing to tighten money. Just don't ask them to do it anytime soon."
Wall Street Journal: "Fed to markets: Let the bubble blow That's the signal the Federal Reserve gave to commodities markets and the stock market Wednesday after keeping interest rates unchanged at historic lows and making no noise about when its policy of easy money will end."
Washington Post: "Fed stands by rock-bottom interest rates for near future Federal Reserve leaders are sticking with their policy of very low interest rates for some time to come, they indicated Wednesday, but gave new details of the factors they will use to decide when to change course."
Washington Post: "FHA delays the release of disputed audit of its finances The Federal Housing Administration abruptly delayed the release of a long-awaited independent audit of the financial soundness of the agency, citing potential problems with the accuracy of some of the study's economic models."
NY Times: "Fed Sees No Need to Raise Interest Rates Soon The Federal Reserve signaled on Wednesday it was no close to raising interest rates, saying that the economy remained weak even though the recession appeared to be over."
LA Times: "Commercial property market to hit bottom in 2010, report says After spending more than a year in suspended animation, the commercial real estate industry is expected to hit bottom in 2010 with a wrenching thud."

USA Today: "Programs help 'unbanked' avoid high fees Dozens of cities are launching programs to sign up low-income people as customers at commercial banks so they can avoid the high fees typical of check-cashing stores and payday lenders."
USA Today: "House votes to accelerate credit card reform rules The House voted on Wednesday to accelerate the enactment date of tough new rules for credit card companies after voters complained of a rise in interest rates and steep new fees."
Reuters: "Central banks lead subtle shift away from dollar Central banks with trillions of dollars in reserves that are already stepping up euro and yen purchases will likely continue doing so in coming years, driven by worries over the stability of the greenback."
Bloomberg: "Fed Pledges to Keep Rates Low for 'Extended Period' (Update5) The Federal Reserve repeated is will keep interest rates near zero for "an extended period" and specified for the first time that policy will stay unchanged as long as inflation expectations are stable and unemployment fails to decline."
Forbes: "'Too Big To Fail' Revisited Although the G-20 finance ministers pledged stronger prudential regulation and financial oversight of systemically important firms at their September meeting, there is no consensus yet among regulators, lawmakers and academics on how best to proceed."